

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for the application of a composition curable by photoirradiation to a fastener, comprising:
 - (i) a conveyor for conveying fasteners to an application station;
 - (ii) an application station comprising an applicator from which the composition is dispensed, the conveyor for rotating at least part of the fasteners past the applicator for application of composition to the fasteners;
 - (iii) a conveyor for conveying the fasteners to an irradiation station and arranged to rotate the fasteners for photoirradiation thereof; and
 - (iv) a photoirradiation station for curing the composition applied to each fastener.
2. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein a first conveyor is provided for conveying fasteners to the application station, and a second conveyor is provided for conveying the fasteners to a photoirradiation station.

3. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the composition is an at least two stage curable composition;

the curable composition having a first cure stage which is activatable by photoirradiation, and a second cure stage which is curable to secure the fastener in a fastening position.

4. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 2 further comprising a fastener feeder for feeding fasteners one by one to the first conveyor.

5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the first conveyor extends through the application station.

6. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the applicator is a coating block.

7. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein at least one dimension of the applicator may be altered.

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising temperature control means for regulating the temperature of the fasteners prior to application of composition thereto.

Claims 9-11. (Cancelled).

12. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the apparatus further comprises a transfer mechanism for transferring the fasteners to the second conveyor.

13. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 12 wherein the transfer mechanism is a conveyor.

Claim 14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the apparatus further comprises a rail for supporting the fasteners at least while the fastener is being conveyed by the first conveyor.

Claims 16-17. (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein two spaced apart rails are provided to support the fastener at at least two positions thereon during conveying of the fasteners.

Claim 19. (Cancelled).

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the application station comprises a supply system for supplying curable composition to the applicator.

Claims 21-24. (Cancelled).

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the photoirradiation station comprises a UV light source for irradiating applied composition with UV light.

Claims 26-27. (Cancelled).

28. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 25 wherein the photoirradiation station comprises a radiation source housed in an enclosure which focuses the radiation through an aperture therein.

Claims 29-30. (Cancelled).

31. (Previously Presented) A feed supply system for supplying a composition to the application station of an apparatus for the application of a composition curable by photoirradiation to a fastener comprising:

(i) a volumetric supply pump for taking product from a product supply and supplying the composition to the application station in a volumetrically controlled fashion; and

(ii) a control for controlling the supply rate of the pump.

32. (Original) A feed supply system according to claim 31 wherein the volumetric supply pump is an eccentric rotor pump.

Claims 33-34. (Cancelled).

35. (Previously Presented) A curable composition for application to a threaded article, comprising a dispersion of:

- (i) components of a first cure mechanism comprising:
 - (a) a (meth)acrylate functional monomer component;
 - (b) a (meth)acrylate functional oligomer component; and
 - (c) a photoinitiator component;
- (ii) components of a second cure mechanism comprising:
 - (d) an amine component; and
 - (e) an encapsulated epoxy resin component; together with
- (iii) a thickener component suitable to impart sufficient viscosity to the uncured composition to maintain the dispersion of the other components in the composition; wherein the photoinitiator component is suitable upon photoirradiation of the composition to achieve a first cure through the depth of the composition applied to a threaded article so that a binder matrix is formed with the components of the second cure mechanism dispersed through the matrix.

Claims 36-50. (Cancelled).

51. (Previously Presented) A curable composition according to claim 35 wherein component (e) comprises a tertiary amine.

Claims 52-55. (Cancelled).

56. (Previously Presented) A curable composition according to claim 35 wherein the mean diameters of microcapsules in which component (f) is encapsulated is in the range of about 100 μ m to about 140 μ m.

Claims 57-67. (Cancelled).

68. (Previously Presented) A threaded assembly component having applied thereto a composition according to claim 35.

69. (Previously Presented) Reciprocally threaded articles having their respective threads bonded together by the cure product of a composition according to claim 35.